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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

:

Yukitaka HAYAKAWA et al.

:

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. 10/584,314

:

Attorney Docket No. 2006_1019A

Filed June 23, 2006

:

HYDRODYNAMIC BEARING DEVICE
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2005/000556
Filed January 12, 2005]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application
PCT/_____; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.
_____.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

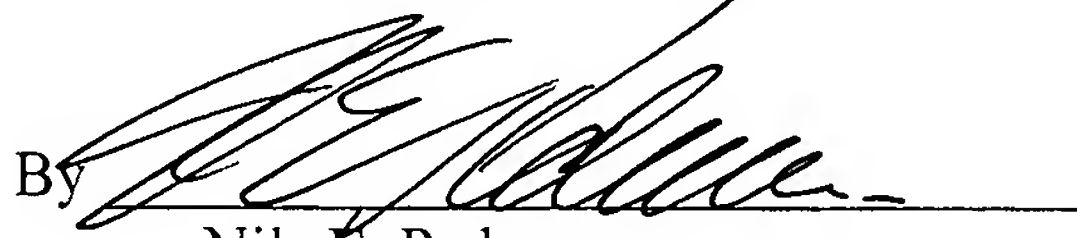
3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) previously submitted,
 - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Yukitaka HAYAKAWA et.al.

By

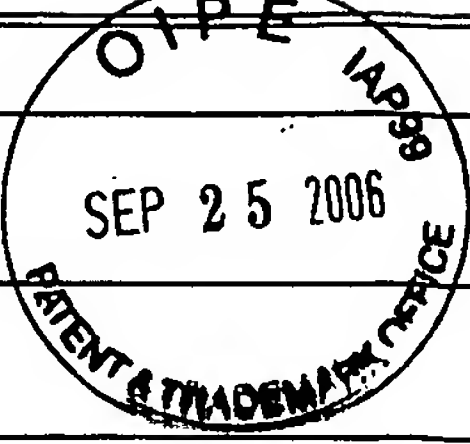


Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145

Attorney for Applicants

NEP/mjw
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
September 25, 2006

Sheet 1 of 1		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT							
FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> Date Submitted to PTO: September 25, 2006				ATTY DOCKET NO. 2006_1019A		SERIAL NO. 10/584,314			
				APPLICANT Yukitaka HAYAKAWA et al.					
				FILING DATE June 23, 2006		GROUP			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
	AA	6,339,273 B1	1/2002	Higuchi					
	AB	2003/0207715	11/2003	Sugiyama et al.					
	AC								
	AD								
	AE								
	AF								
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AG	2000-270530	9/2000	JP			Abstract		
	AH	2003-322136	11/2003	JP			Abstract		
	AI	H03-29723	1/1989	JP				X	
	AJ	09-105418	4/1997	JP			Abstract		
	AK	08-212687	8/1996	JP			Abstract		
	AL	2004-282955	10/2004	JP			Abstract		
	AM								
	AN								
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AO								
	AP								
	AQ								
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include cop. this form with next communication to applicant.